SPECIAL MEETING NORTH SMITHFIELD TOWN COUNCIL

**SEPTEMBER 6, 2016** 

**NS MIDDLE SCHOOL** 

7:00 P.M.

The meeting began at 7:05 P.M. with the pledge to the flag. Council members present were Ms. Alves, Mr. Soly and Mr. Zwolenski. Also in attendance was Town Solicitor Igliozzi. Council member Nadeau and Town Administrator Hamilton did not attend.

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

MOTION by Mr. Zwolenski, seconded by Mr. Soly, and voted 3 to 0 on a roll call vote to enter into executive session at 7:07 P.M. pursuant to RIGL 42-46-5(A)(2) Sessions pertaining to collective bargaining or litigation to discuss Tammy Boss v Town of North Smithfield PC-2015-3772.

(Mr. Boucher arrived during executive session at 7:09 P.M.)

MOTION by Mr. Zwolenski, seconded by Ms. Alves, and voted 4 to 0 on a roll call vote to come out of executive session at 7:36 P.M. and to seal the minutes. No motions were made and no votes were taken.

#### E-PERMITTING

Mr. Shawn Selleck was present to explain the e-permitting project. He was seeking approval for North Smithfield to take advantage of the state contract. Full implementation costs are being paid by the state

for the first ten municipalities that participate plus costs for maintenance and service will be paid for the first year. Starting with the second year, the cost to North Smithfield has been negotiated to be just over \$3.00 per permit application.

MOTION by Mr. Zwolenski, seconded by Mr. Soly, and voted 4 to 0 on a roll call vote to approve the agreement contingent upon review of the Town Solicitor and then with authorization for the Town Council President to sign the document.

WAIVER OF SEWER ASSESSMENT BALANCE - Mrs. Belanger

Mrs. Susan Belanger of 15 Belcher Avenue came before the Council requesting an abatement of the remainder of her sewer assessment. She is on her third grinder pump. The first one that was installed by the Town in 1996 was defective. The second one, installed in 1998, went down and Mrs. Belanger paid \$2,000 for a new one. In 2014 that pump failed. It cost her \$250 just for someone to come out and look at it. A third pump was installed in June of 2014 at a cost of \$3,027. The pump failed in August of 2014 but was under warranty so there was no extra cost. It was also discovered that the electrical box for the pump was installed upside down and the wiring was incorrect.

MOTION by Mr. Zwolenski, seconded by Ms. Alves, and voted 4 to 0

Mrs. Belanger is seeking an abatement of the remainder of the sewer

assessment because of all the issues she has had, her husband is

now deceased and this has become a hardship for her.

on a roll call vote to abate \$1,649.00 based upon the recommendation of the

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Sewer Commission, the testimony of Mrs. Belanger and her out-of-pocket expenses.

### MUNICIPAL AND ROAD BONDS

There was no discussion.

#### APPOINTMENT TO SEWER COMMISSION

Current Sewer Commission member William A. Dorry IV submitted a letter informing the Council that he was recently recalled to active duty with the United States Navy and he will be gone for approximately 330 days.

Mr. Dorry would like to retain his position on the Commission and asked if the Council would consider appointing someone to serve in his place temporarily.

MOTION by Mr. Boucher, seconded by Mr. Zwolenski, and voted 4 to 0 on a roll call vote to accept Mr. Dorry's letter and if the Council can find a temporary replacement, the members will do so.

# SERVICE AGREEMENT WITH COASTLINE EAP

MOTION by Mr. Zwolenski, seconded by Mr. Boucher, and voted 4 to 0

on a roll call vote to approve the agreement with Coastline for an annual amount of \$1,500 and to authorize the Town Council President to sign the document.

SIXTH AMENDMENT AGREEMENT TO CONTRACT WITH NS FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE, INC.

Chief Joel Jillson informed the Council that agreeable language had been drafted with the Town Solicitor and the Budget Committee Chairwoman.

All revenue will be controlled through the Finance Director in a restricted account for use by the fire department.

MOTION by Mr. Zwolenski, seconded by Mr. Soly and Mr. Boucher, and voted 4 to 0 on a roll call vote to approve the sixth amendment to the contract between the Town of North Smithfield and the North Smithfield Fire and Rescue Service and to authorize the Town Administrator to sign it.

## **TESTING OF SCHOOL AND TOWN PROPERTIES**

Mr. Soly received information today from Public Works Director Raymond Pendergast denoting the products and the timeline for use of the products on town parks and fields. Soil samples have been collected and sent out for testing. The Water and Sewer Superintendent is required to test three locations monthly.

MOTION by Mr. Soly, seconded by Mr. Boucher, and voted 4 to 0 on a roll call vote to accept the memo and email information regarding environmental testing received from Mr. Pendergast and to place it on the town website.

# PRODUCTIVITY/EFFICIENCY STUDY

Finance Director Jason Parmelee had gathered information on a company who does a study of this nature. They can do a preliminary study for less than \$5,000 or a full-blown study for approximately \$30,000.

MOTION by Mr. Boucher, seconded by Mr. Zwolenski, and voted 4 to 0 on a roll call vote to get a preliminary study from Municipal Services Inc. and to approve up to \$5,000 to do so.

# RENOVATIONS AT THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS BUILDING

Mr. Boucher noted that the Council had appropriated \$5,000 for a sign honoring former Town Administrator Arthur Denomme, to have that sign placed at the Public Works building and to spruce up the building as well. There has been some confusion as to how to proceed.

MOTION by Mr. Boucher to direct the Town Administrator to allow Mr. Pendergast to be the clerk of the works for this project for which money has been appropriated and for Mr. Pendergast to contact the

Department of Corrections for a cost estimate to paint the building.

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Mr. Pendergast commented that it needed to be clearly stated what should be done.

The motion was later withdrawn.

MOTION by Mr. Boucher, seconded by Mr. Zwolenski, and voted 4 to 0 on a roll call vote to have the Finance Director contact the Department of Corrections to set up a meeting with Mr. Pendergast for an overview of the cost of getting the Public Works building painted and to have the Finance Director assist through the completion of the project. Mr. Boucher will get information regarding the cost of the sign.

# RIDOT INSTALLATION OF TRAFFIC SIGNS IN SCHOOL ZONES

Mr. Zwolenski noted that Pare Engineering was hired to do an engineering survey for placement of school safety signs. He wanted to thank Stephen Pristawa of the Department of Transportation as well as the Director of the Department of Transportation for crafting and installing the signs. Mr. Zwolenski thought it might be nice if Mr. Pristawa could come in to say everything is okay but it is not the town's jurisdiction, it is the state's issue.

Mr. Pendergast agreed to contact Mr. Pristawa to see if he would review the installations of the signs to be sure they are in the proper locations.

## **CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION**

Commission Chair Paul Vadenais was present seeking clarification on when the Council would like to receive a report, if the Council would appoint the ninth member to the commission and if he could contact Mr. Igliozzi for any legal questions that may arise.

APPOINTMENT TO AD HOC ORDINANCE REVIEW COMMISSION There was no appointment.

APPOINTMENT TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION There was no appointment.

# APPOINTMENT TO HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

MOTION by Mr. Boucher, seconded by Mr. Zwolenski, Mr. Soly and Ms. Alves, and voted 4 to 0 on a roll call vote to appoint Sarah Lane of 24 Tall Timber Trail to the Historic District Commission. Ms. Lane will be completing a three-year term that expires on December 1, 2016.

APPOINTMENT TO PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION There was no appointment.

APPOINTMENT TO REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY

There was no appointment.

#### APPOINTMENT TO CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION

There was no appointment.

# AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR CRACK SEALING

MOTION by Mr. Zwolenski, seconded by Mr. Soly and Mr. Boucher, and voted 4 to 0 on a roll call vote to award the contract to Sealcoating, Inc. at a cost of \$.26 per linear foot up to an amount of \$25,000 for this particular contract based on the recommendations of the Finance Director and the Public Works Director.

#### **AUDITING FIRM ENGAGEMENT LETTER**

Mr. Parmelee explained this is the second year of a three-year agreement.

MOTION by Mr. Boucher, seconded by Mr. Zwolenski, and voted 4 to 0 on a roll call vote to approve the agreement with Bacon & Company and to authorize the Town Council President to sign it.

## 1ST READING SALARY AND WAGE ORDINANCE

Subsequent to the budget being passed, Mr. Pendergast requested an increase in wages for two supervisory positions. The union members voted to approve the changes for the Fiscal Clerk II, the Recording Clerk, the Tax Assessor's Clerk, the Animal Control Supervisor and the Laborer Foreman supervisory position.

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Following some discussion, it was agreed to clarify that there are (2) Foremen in the Highway Department and the new Animal Control position is part time and the wage is \$17.00 per hour.

MOTION by Mr. Boucher, seconded by Mr. Zwolenski, and voted 4 to 0 on a roll call vote to amend the ordinance to add the designation "Highway" to the two Foremen positions, to add "part time" to the new Animal Control Officer and to correct the hourly wage for the Animal Control Officer from \$24.80 to \$17.00.

MOTION by Mr. Zwolenski, seconded by Mr. Boucher, and voted 4 to 0 on a roll call vote to consider this the first reading as amended.

#### **ABATEMENTS**

MOTION by Mr. Boucher, seconded by Mr. Zwolenski, and voted 4 to 0 on a roll call vote to approve credits of \$9,669.92 and a debit of \$144.65 on the abatement list dated August 15, 2016 and to approve credits of \$36,703.65 and debits of \$1,903.31 on the abatement list with no date but provided in the same package.

AWARD OF BID FOR OPEB POST-EMPLOYMENT ACTUARIAL VALUATION SERVICES

MOTION by Mr. Zwolenski, seconded by Mr. Boucher, and voted 4 to 0

on a roll call vote to approve the bid of Danziger Markhoff, LLP for 2016 Services for the amount of \$4,750.00.

#### **GENERAL FUND YEAR END RECAP**

Mr. Parmelee provided and explained this report to the Council members.

### POSSIBLE CONTAMINATION AREAS IN NORTH SMITHFIELD

Mr. Boucher was concerned with information he received regarding possible contamination areas in Uxbridge and other areas that could affect North Smithfield residents. He would like the Town Administrator to proactively investigate and contact other agencies for information.

Mr. Zwolenski stated that he has asked the Town Administrator to look into this and provide the Town Council with an update.

Mr. Soly would like to have information readily available for abutters of those areas. The Town could be a resource for those abutters on what procedures they should follow. He feels everyone should be proactive in testing their own wells.

MOTION by Mr. Zwolenski, seconded by Mr. Soly and Mr. Boucher, and voted 4 to 0 on a roll call vote to have the Town Solicitor craft a letter to the Uxbridge Town Manager and Selectmen asking them for full cooperation and disclosure of any information, including

information from the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection, that may affect the North Smithfield aquifer.

MOTION by Mr. Soly, seconded by Mr. Zwolenski, and voted 4 to 0 on a roll call vote to have the Town Administrator or Town Planner, as the Environmental Advocate, contact the Department of Environmental Management as well as the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection to see if free testing kits are available for town residents.

MOTION by Mr. Soly, seconded by Ms. Alves and Mr. Zwolenski, and voted unanimously on an aye vote to adjourn at 9:31 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra A. Todd, Town Clerk